

## DNREC Sediment & Stormwater Listserve Update: December 2019

### This month's topics:

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### 1. DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program Contact Information

After fourteen years with the DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship, Administrative Specialist Joanne Gedney has moved on to work with another division of DNREC. While her email address is still active, Joanne is no longer the contact person for Sediment and Stormwater Certification or eNOIs.

Questions specific to eNOIs should be directed to [DNREC\\_eNOIadmin@state.de.us](mailto:DNREC_eNOIadmin@state.de.us).

Sediment and Stormwater certification or any other program general questions should be directed to [DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov](mailto:DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov).

### 2. New Sediment and Stormwater Program Office Location

After December 16, 2019, the DNREC Sediment & Stormwater Program, along with all other Dover offices of the DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship will be consolidating in new office space located at **285 Beiser Boulevard, Suite 102, Dover, DE 19904**. Please update mailing addresses used for submittals to the DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program. The DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program phone number will remain (302) 739-9921.

The new facility will have state-of-the art meeting and conference facilities available for conducting Project Application Meetings and other functions related to our Program. We hope to make the transition as smooth as possible, but please understand there may be some disruption to services during the actual move.

### 3. Remaining Contractor Certification Course Date for 2019

The Contractor's Certification Course, also known as the "Blue Card Course", is a ½-day course that gives an overview of the Sediment and Stormwater Program, its regulations, and required erosion and sediment control measures in the State of Delaware. Under the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations, at least one person in responsible charge of a construction site must have successfully completed the Contractor's Certification Course. The remaining Blue Card Course date for 2019 is **December 12th** and **registration is closed**. Dates for 2020 Contractor Certification Courses have been added to the website. Additional information can be found on the Sediment & Stormwater Program website at the following link:

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Pages/BlueCard.aspx>

#### **4. 2020 CCR Course Dates**

The 2020 Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) course will be held on **Wednesdays, March 4, March 11 or 18 (field trip), and March 25, 2020**. Registration will begin in late December 2019. Confirmations will start going out in January 2020. Information on the CCR course and a link to the registration form will be found at the following link:

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Pages/CCR.aspx>

#### **5. Deadline for Pre-2014 Approved Plans**

Subsection 1.3.2.1 of the Delaware Sediment and Stormwater Regulations requires that any plan approved to comply with Sediment and Stormwater Regulations in effect prior to the 2014 regulations must commence construction no later than December 31, 2019. Where construction has not commenced by December 31, 2019, the plan will expire as of that date. Commencement of construction means that the construction of the approved Plan is visible with the construction of a structure or infrastructure, including but not limited to roads, water and sewer lines, and stormwater management systems. General earth moving is not considered commencement of construction.

Questions regarding the validity of a plan approved in accordance with regulations in effect prior to 2014 should be directed to the approval agency.

#### **6. 2019 Regulations Highlight: Adoption of NOAA Rainfall Distribution Curves**

The Delaware State Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has adopted the current National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Rainfall Distribution curves for the hydrologic design of conservation practices in Delaware in place of the NRCS Type II Rainfall Distribution Curves. In keeping with this, the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Program will begin accepting the use of the NOAA Rainfall Distribution Curves for the hydrologic design of stormwater management practices intended to comply with the Delaware Sediment & Stormwater Regulations effective January 1, 2020. NOAA Curve C should be used in New Castle and Kent Counties. NOAA Curve D should be used for Sussex County.

The general notice adopting Regulatory Guidance Memorandum RGM-1 was published in the December 1, 2019 [Register of Regulations](#). RGM-1 is available at the following link:  
[http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Documents/Sediment%20and%20Stormwater%20Program/Regulatory%20Guidance%20Documents/Regulatory%20Guidance%20Memos/RGM-1\\_NOAA%20Rainfall%20Distributions.pdf](http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Documents/Sediment%20and%20Stormwater%20Program/Regulatory%20Guidance%20Documents/Regulatory%20Guidance%20Memos/RGM-1_NOAA%20Rainfall%20Distributions.pdf)

#### **7. Link of the Month: Case Study of Conowingo Dam and Chesapeake Bay**

The impacts from damming streams and tributaries have received increased attention over the past several decades, leading to physical removal in some cases to try to restore their natural function. In some cases this is not possible, however, if the dam serves a major hydroelectric or drinking water reservoir purpose. Maintenance of such facilities then becomes the focus, including managing the sediment that inevitably accumulates behind them.

The Conowingo Dam is a case-in-point, though the potential problems are greatly magnified due to its sheer size and the drainage area that reaches the dam. The sediment that has accumulated behind the Conowingo Dam has now reached a point that something must be done to keep it functioning as intended. Merely releasing the accumulated sediment downstream could prove to be disastrous to the recovery efforts for the Chesapeake Bay. Such is the topic of a recent study by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. The full results from the study are available at the following link:

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12237-019-00634-x>